





# THE DAILY PRESS.

PORTLAND, MAINE.

Monday Morning, May 9, 1864.

The circulation of the Daily Press is larger than any other daily paper in the State, and double that of any other in Portland.

Terms—\$7.00 per year; if paid strictly in advance a discount of \$1.00 will be made.

Reading Matter on all Four Pages.

Union Convention!

The citizens of the First Congressional District who are unconditionally loyal to the Government of the United States, and who unconditionally support all its measures for suppressing the Rebellion, and who are resolved to see an endeavor to maintain our National Unity, both in principle and territorial boundary, are invited to send Delegates to a Convention to be held at SACO, on

Thursday, the 26th day of May.

At 11 o'clock A. M. for the purpose of selecting two delegates to the NATIONAL CONVENTION, which meets at Baltimore the 7th day of June next.

The basis of representation will be one Delegate for every 1000 inhabitants, and one additional Delegate for every 5000 votes thrown for the Union Candidate for Governor in 1863. A majority fraction of 5000 votes will entitle a town to an additional Delegate.

JOHN L. PORTLAND, Union  
S. H. L. GOSWICK, Gloucester  
JOHN A. LAMOREL, Brunswick  
JOHN A. WATSON, North Berwick  
D. S. STEPHENS, Biddeford  
GEO. H. KNOWLTON, Alfred  
M. F. NEWBURY, Biddeford  
may 9 dawton 25

The Recent Great Battles.

We refer the reader to our telegraphic columns for all details yet received of the battles of the past week. So far all looks well. Victory has undoubtedly been won on the Union standard, and Gen. Grant's usual success has attended him. It is idle, in the absence of details, to indulge in speculations, particularly as official information may be hourly expected. The reason for so few details may possibly be found in the alleged fact, that Gen. Grant severed all communication with Washington, and stationed pickets to prevent the passage of any couriers except his own.

The telegraph office in this city was open all Saturday night, in direct communication with New York, but nothing decisive or definite came to hand. All was vague, mixed and contradictory. Sunday about noon additional dispatches came over the lines, and were published in an extra from the Courier office. It was stated that Gen. Butler, with 35,000 men, had penetrated to within five miles of Richmond; also that Lee attempted to get between Gen. Grant's army and the fords on the Rapidan, but was foiled and compelled to abandon the effort. Subsequently a fierce attack was kept up on our lines, which steadily received the shock.

We are hopeful that the cause of the Union has triumphed; that our forces have gained a glorious victory over Lee—the greatest general in the rebel army, and one of the best military men of this or any other country—and that henceforth the spirits of our people will rise, so that the work of subduing the rebellion may go on with accelerated force and velocity. God speed the right.

The list of casualties must necessarily be large, and our State—our own people—have doubtless got to feel their full share of sorrow for brave loved ones fallen, and for many families bereaved of life. God support the sufferers, and comfort those who shall be called to mourn, and inspire all hearts with a purpose to do all things possible for the relief of the wounded.

An Appeal for our Dr. Service.

The Maine Soldiers' Relief Association at Washington, of which A. B. Farwell, Esq., is President, and all the officers of which are citizens of Maine, have issued a circular in which an urgent appeal is made to the patriotic and philanthropic for aid in view of the great battle about to be fought, and the many cases of wounded brave men whose necessities and distresses will almost necessarily call for that prompt aid and careful attention which it is the mission of the Association to furnish. New York keeps ten thousand to look after her needy soldiers, at an annual State expense of \$100,000; Massachusetts expends \$80,000; New Jersey \$50,000; and other States more or less according to their means and disposition.

Our State appropriates \$2400 only to this object, and with so many of her soldiers now within the vortex of impending or actual conflict, she has only two agents—one gentleman and one lady, who, though both untiring in their labors and self-sacrificing to a fault, find themselves crippled through lack of means. The Maine people at Washington have begged themselves heavily to swell the small amount appropriated by the State, but still the supply of means is not adequate to the demand.

Articles of comfort and little luxuries, such as will suggest themselves to the mind of every one, and such as the government is unable to furnish, are needed for distribution in the hospitals. And yet, this seems to have been quite forgotten; for during the last six months only twenty-nine packages have been received from the whole State, and of these twenty-five came from the city of Bath.

A letter has been received in this city from Governor Cony, who has also written to Bangor and other large places, urging immediate attention to this matter. Shall Portland do her duty? Will she not imitate the noble example of her sister city, Bath, and do even more than the generous people of that place have done, inasmuch as she has more people to act, and more means to act with?

We understand "The Ladies' Sanitary Committee," of which Mrs. Dr. Shailer is President, Mrs. Rea, Secretary, and Mrs. Dr. Gilman, Treasurer, propose instant action, and will commence to-day, early, at pack boxes to be forwarded to the "Maine Soldier's Relief Association," at Washington, for the relief of our own Maine soldiers. They hope to send off some boxes this afternoon, to be followed by other contributions of a similar nature.

A word more: They—the Ladies' Committee—appeal to the merchants of Portland, to show their liberality by sending to their stores in the City building, contributions of such articles as cordials, mustard, jellies, corn starch, farina, and other farinaceous articles, and such little delicacies for the sick and wounded as their own good judgment may suggest, so that Portland patriotism and philanthropy and Christian liberality may be fully vindicated. A word to the wise is sufficient; and we trust our city merchants will men?

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT.—The Portland Amateurs will give an entertainment this evening at Deering Hall, that should attract a crowded house. The play of Don Cesar de Bazan and the farce of The Pillow-Play, will be performed, in which some who have not before performed in public, will appear. Mrs. Murray, the estimable wife of the British Consul, will lend her powerful aid in the performances. The Widow's Wood Society is to be the recipient of the proceeds of the entertainment. Thus by visiting the hall one can enjoy two or three hours of pleasure, and at the same time contributing to the funds of one of our noblest charities.

## Gen. Gilmore and the Colored Troops.

A letter from Gen. Gilmore, at Morris Island, Charleston Harbor, to Gen. Halleck, written in December last, has just been published. The letter makes certain suggestions in relation to the colored troops which ought, under the circumstances, to silence forever such miserable twaddle as that daily poured forth through the columns of the copperhead journals, to the effect that negroes are not fit for soldiers, and that no white man can consent to fight with them without self-degradation.

Gen. Gilmore, after his experience at Wagner and his knowledge of the brave deeds of the 54th Mass. and their gallant leader—a young man high-born as the world understands that phrase, and nursed in the lap of wealth and luxury, but who, nevertheless did not get degraded by leading negro troops or mingling his blood with theirs for his country's benefit—urged upon Gen. Halleck that black troops in his department should be called United States colored regiments, instead of being named after their states, as the 1st S. C., or the 54th Mass., &c. He also asked the appointment of a board in his department to examine candidates for commissions in colored regiments. He urged that "the pay of the white and colored soldiers should be the same," and suggested that the families of colored soldiers should be provided for by allowing them to locate upon and cultivate lands in advance of their survey and sale.

To the following sentence in Gen. Gilmore's letter particular attention is invited:

"The policy of the government in organizing regiments of colored troops upon the coast, and the value and general efficiency of a class of soldiers, have had a fair trial and a successful issue under my own eyes. The wisdom of the course pursued (under my rule) to the credit of the colored troops (and soldier alike) has been fully vindicated upon the field of battle and in the trenches. Every vestige of the prejudice and ill-feeling which existed between the white and colored troops of this command, during a period of inactivity, has disappeared under the excitement of an active campaign, of which the labors and dangers were shared alike by both classes."

Referring to the letter from which this is an extract, the Evening Post says:

Now General Gilmore was formerly, unless most bested him, of a once numerous class who held that you cannot interfere with slavery without destroying the Union and violating the constitution. He was for letting white men only fight in this war, and was opposed to receiving negro recruits into the ranks. He was not only a slaveholder, but a slave trader. He was not only a slaveholder, but a slave trader. He was not only a slaveholder, but a slave trader.

The contemptible spirit which led forty-nine members of the House of Representatives to vote on Saturday against the equalization of pay which was voted by General Gilmore long ago in December, is not found in the army. There is no man of the blacks would fight, and when it was found that they would, no white soldier or officer grudged them equal pay. General Gilmore has done himself honor by the rank and mainly in which he has sacrificed his own life and the lives of his officers and men to the principles of equal liberty and free labor, as the majority of his graduates in former years have been to slavery.

The Portland Press talks bravely of the railroad monopoly in New Jersey, and would wonder? Does the Press know of any such monopoly elsewhere? Did it never hear of opposition to widening the gauge of a railway for fear the cars on the Grand Trunk would run direct to Boston?—Newbury Herald.

We have long known that the "Old Bay State" was some on raising animals, and that she furnished more victims for the cattle disease than all the rest of the country combined, but we did not know before that her asses had become so numerous as to crowd officers from their sanctum chairs. Monopoly between Portland and Boston, forsooth? Is there not a Boston and Maine road already as well as a shore line? And is there not a road chartered and already partially built, to connect the former with this city independent of the latter? Has any petition for additional railroad facilities between the two cities ever been denied by our Legislature? Has the Legislature denied any application for a third rail or a change of gauge, or has it simply barred reckless speculators against complicating the track by a third rail without authority?

Our "Sleepy Hollow" friend had better rub his jaundiced eyes, and look at things in a clear light. His jealousy is entirely uncalled for. Maine is of age. She remembers her old mother with filial affection, but she can no longer consent to remain in leading strings, or to be the mere appendage of her aristocratic mamma. She wishes well to the old lady, but does not feel called upon to confine all her business within the circumference of the maternal hoops.

BEAUTIFUL ALBUM PICTURES.—Messrs. L. PRANG & CO., Lithographers, Boston, are issuing from their prolific press what to our mind is a great novelty in the line of Album Pictures, or lithographs in colors. They are bringing out a series of these pictures, of the *Carte-de-visite* style, of the most attractive character. They represent natural landscapes, insects, birds, plants, animals, preserving all hues even on the wing of the most gaudy butterfly, and all the tints of an autumnal forest leaf. It is a marvellous improvement in the line of the fine arts. No one who has not carefully examined them can realize the perfection with which nature is represented. We are indebted to Messrs. P. & Co., for a package containing a dozen each of Flowers, Autumn Leaves, Sea Mosses, and Butterflies and Moths. We understand these novel and beautiful publications are for sale by Hall L. Davis and Messrs. R. J. D. Larrabee & Co. We advise our readers who have a taste for the beautiful, to go and examine them.

A FEMALE SOLDIER.—The Bangor Whig says a woman came through that city on the western train on Wednesday night last, who had been twenty-two months in the United States Cavalry service in the western army. She was with her husband until he was killed, but that did not drive her from the service. She continued until she was wounded, when her sex was discovered. She was a faithful soldier and has a regular discharge made out in form, signed by the fighting Rosecrans.

PAINTERS' ASSOCIATION.—The following named persons were elected officers of the Painters' Association of this city, at their meeting on Thursday evening, viz: John C. Bateman, President; William B. Naylor, Vice President; John E. Huntress, Secretary, and Wm. H. Libby, Treasurer.

FIRE.—A small dwelling house, unoccupied, corner of Brackett and Vaughan streets, was destroyed by fire about one o'clock Sunday morning. It was the work of an incendiary.

## ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

Butter, of the best quality, is selling in Waterville at 25 cents a pound.

Hon. E. W. Woodbury is about to remove from Sweden to South Paris.

The city liquor agency in Belfast has been abolished by vote of the city government.

Mrs. Amy Solomon died in Attleboro, Mass., on the 1st inst., at the age of 107 years.

Montreal has now a population of 130,000 inhabitants and is increasing at the rate of fifty-eight per cent. annually.

The House Naval Committee has decided in favor of locating the Navy Yard for iron clads at New London, Ct.

The June number of Harper's Magazine has been received by A. Robinson, No. 51 Exchange street.

Seven tons of maple sugar were made in four small school districts, in Bethel, the present season.

Five persons were baptized in Waterville last week, by Rev. Mr. Pepper, and afterward admitted to the Baptist church.

A son of Dennis Desmond was seriously injured while playing in a saw mill in Machias, on Saturday, 30th ult.

Encourage domestic enterprise and keep the gold at home, should be the motto of every loyal man and woman.

Sperm oil is selling in New Bedford at \$1.70 a gallon and whale bone at 1.50 a pound. That city is having a streak of luck as well as some others.

We are pleased to learn, as we do from the Biddeford Journal, that Hon. Leonard Andrews has so far recovered from his long and severe illness as to be able to ride out.

The Philadelphia Press truly says that the renomination of President Lincoln is a measure that will inflict the worst blow upon the rebellion.

The prospects of the hay crop are said to be good, as the winter-killing of the grass roots does not appear to have been extensive.

A daily paper is about to be started in Concord, N. H. The proposition to remove the State Capital to Manchester, is stirring the people up.

Orlando Keene was arrested in Lewiston Tuesday, charged with an attempt to shoot his wife. He was bound over in the sum of \$150, as we learn from the Journal.

The Bath Times learns that a storehouse in Wiscasset, containing twenty tons of hay, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday night.

The Machias Republican says that the wharves in that place present quite a busy appearance at the present time. The high prices of lumber makes business brisk.

Rev. D. Boyd has resigned the pastoral charge of the Free Will Baptist Church at Exeter, Me., and has accepted a call to take charge of a church at Milton Mills, N. H.

Among the passengers per steamship Damascus, which left this port Saturday for Liverpool, were John Hayden, Esq., and son, and Mrs. Capt. Potter, all of Bath.

Steamship Damascus sailed from this port at 3.30 P. M. on Saturday. She had twenty-five passengers and a full cargo. The Damascus is the last of the Montreal line from this port the present season.

The confidence the public have in the 10-40 bonds, is seen in the large amount that is being taken. Bonds are held of various sizes, at the First National Bank in this city.

The citizens of Dixfield and vicinity, gave the 12th Maine a grand reception a few days since. J. B. Marrow, Esq., presided on the occasion, and the address of welcome was made by Isaac Randall Esq.

The Cincinnati Enquirer states that General Pope, with several thousand of his troops, is preparing to leave Milwaukee for Washington. The militia are to take the place of the troops on the frontier.

A brick company has been started in Boston, with a capital of \$100,000, for the purpose of manufacturing brick in this State. They are intending to make a purchase in Elliot.

Ice is cheap in New York—two dollars per ton at wholesale. Last year the price ranged from five to twenty dollars during the warm weather. It is rather slippery business, the prices are so fluctuating.

The autograph original copy of Attorney General Bates' decision, placing negro soldiers on an equality with others as to their pay and allowances, has been obtained of President Lincoln and transmitted to Governor Andrew, of Massachusetts.

The scandalous reports in circulation about female clerks in the Treasury Department have been shown to be without foundation. There is a disposition on the part of men who are seeking easy situations to traduce young women who are occupying such places.

Mrs. James Witham and her son, of Gardiner, have been committed for trial for inducing a small boy to steal quite an amount of jewelry and \$400 worth of U. S. bonds.

A perfect fit guaranteed. The perfect liberal consideration. A perfect fit guaranteed. The perfect liberal consideration.

Capt. Samuel Barker, of Nantucket, recently caught a codfish of the South Shore, weighing 73 pounds, in whose stomach were found two ducks, two flat-fish and one sculpin. A wondrous thing this latest invention for stuffing a cod; one that does not appear in the cook books.

At a sale of Mr. Allen's books in New York a few days since, his copy of Eliot's Indian Bible, printed in Cambridge, Mass., in 1833, sold for the most perfect in America, sold for \$825. His illustrated copy of Dibble's "Bibleman" brought \$720; a plain copy, \$100.

The Barnstable Patriot says a contractor from East Boston has removed a dwelling at Hyannis, Mass., a distance of two hundred feet, without disturbing a brick from the chimneys or a dish from the pantries. The occupants were allowed to pursue the "even tenor of their way" within, during the removal, and suffered no inconvenience in doing so.

An editor in Iowa has fallen heir, through the death of his wife's brother, to an estate valued at one and a half million of dollars. We trust he will submit to this dispensation of Providence with Christian fortitude and resignation, and bear up under the infliction as becomes one of the representatives of a profession that often is called upon to submit to poverty than riches.

Frank P. Blair was serenaded on his return to St. Louis a few days since. In his speech, referring to the alleged liquor speculation, he said his auditors all knew that he liked whiskey too well to speculate in it. He declared himself still in favor of the emancipation of the slaves, and their removal from the country. He was in favor of their fighting, "if they will fight," but opposed to giving them the right of suffrage.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

TO THE EVENING PAPERS.

HEAVY LOSS OF GEN. STEEL AT SALINE RIVER.

Cairo, Ill., May 6, P. M.—We have important news from the Southwest. On the 25th ult. a wagon train, consisting of 240 wagons, returning to Pine Bluffs, together with the escort, under Col. Drake, comprising the 54th Iowa, 7th Ohio and 43d Indiana, with four pieces of artillery, were captured.

Gen. Steel left Camden for Little Rock on the 25th ult., being out of supplies. On the 26th he crossed the Saline River. Before the crossing he was attacked by the rebels under Fagan, and during the evening a portion of the rebel cavalry crossed above them, and proceeded to within eight miles of Little Rock, causing a great deal of alarm.

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## SPECIAL NOTICES.

FAMILY DYE COLORS.

(PATENTED OCT. 13, 1863.)

A SAVING OF 80 PER CENT.

BLACK, BLACK FOR SKIN, DARK BLUE, LIGHT BLUE, FRENCH BROWN, LIGHT BROWN, DARK BROWN, SNEE BROWN, SHAW, SEARS, DRESS, ROBINS, BONNET, HATS, BATHING, CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, AND ALL KINDS OF WAREHOUSE APPAREL.

For Dyeing Silk, Woolen and Cotton Goods, Shawls, Scarves, Dresses, Robings, Bonnets, Hats, Bathing, Children's Clothing, and all kinds of Warehouse Apparel.

For 25 cents you can color as many goods as would otherwise cost five times that sum. Various shades can be produced in the same dye. The process is simple and any one can use the dye with perfect success. Directions in English, French and German, and all kinds of each package.

For further information in Dyeing, and giving a perfect knowledge of what colors are best adapted to each color, with a full and complete receipt for coloring Shawls & Scarves, Dresses, Robings, Bonnets, Hats, Bathing, Children's Clothing, and all kinds of Warehouse Apparel.

For sale by druggists and dealers generally. may 3 dlm

Coughs and Colds.

The subacute stage of our climate is a source of PLEURISY, BRONCHITIS and ASTHMA. Experience has proved that simple remedies often set speedily when taken at the early stages of the disease, recourse should be had to a remedy which will cure the disease, and give a perfect knowledge of what colors are best adapted to each color, with a full and complete receipt for coloring Shawls & Scarves, Dresses, Robings, Bonnets, Hats, Bathing, Children's Clothing, and all kinds of Warehouse Apparel.

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# PORTLAND AND VICINITY.

U. S. Commissioner's Court.

WM. H. CLIFFORD, ESQ., COMMISSIONER.  
Wm. P. Spark, of Bath, was brought before the Commissioner Saturday, charged with aiding a deserter from the U. S. army to escape, and for carrying him away, knowing him to be a deserter. Spark was not ready for examination, and was ordered to furnish sureties in the sum of \$300 for his appearance before the Commissioner to-day. Failing to furnish bail, he was committed to jail. G. E. B. Jackson, Esq., Assistant U. S. Dist. Attorney, for Government.

S. J. Court—April Term.

DAVIS, J., PRESIDING.  
Saturday. The case of Day vs. Conway Insurance Co., was argued by Mr. Davis for the defendants and by Mr. Hand for the plaintiff. The jury had not agreed upon a verdict at noon, at which time the Court adjourned to 9 o'clock, Monday morning.

Municipal Court.—May 7.

Peter Towle, for drunkenness and disturbance, was fined five dollars and costs. Committed.

ANOTHER PASTORAL RESIGNATION.—Rev. Dr. Chickering announced to the High Street congregation yesterday that he had been for some time coming to the conclusion that, the thirtieth year of their connection, might, to mutual advantage, though with mutual regret, be the last. He made this early announcement in order to place them in a position to be preparing for a change of pastors, in which he promised his aid and concurrence, to be effected at such time during the year as may be desirable.

This announcement was a surprise to every one of his congregation. Dr. Chickering's labors in Portland have been eminently successful—the largest church in the State—settling off from its members, in a body, the nucleus of State Street Church—helping to form two other Congregational churches, by numerous members for each, and still retaining more families in his congregation than there are pews in the church. His unselfish and faithful labors among his own people and those who belong to no religious association, have endeared him to a vast number and will make his departure deeply felt and regretted. Who was in distress and he did not minister unto them? Who had sorrow and he did not find a friend and comforter in him? The blessings of many will go with him, and the hope that his usefulness may be even greater wherever his lot may be cast.

COL. FESSENDEN WOUNDED.—We learn that Col. Frank Fessenden, of the 30th Maine Regiment, was wounded in the leg, on the 23d of April, in the battle for the possession of Mante's Bluff, while gallantly leading on the Brigade which he was temporarily commanding at that time. The position he attacked was as difficult of access as Fort Hudson or Vicksburg, and involved the safety of our army. It is gratifying to learn that his wound is not considered dangerous and that at last accounts he was doing well. His conduct in that affair received the commendation of his superior officers.

TOBACCO MANUFACTORY.—An establishment for the manufacture of tobacco is about to go into operation in this city, the machinery for it having arrived last week. It will be in the Galt Block, on Commercial street, and is owned by Messrs. Moore, Heath & Co., of New York. The leaf will be purchased in Western cities and manufactured here into various brands, giving employment to a force of two hundred workmen.

FASHIONABLE CLOTHING.—Messrs. Rodins & Bond, Middle street, have enlarged and renovated their store, and have put in a fine stock of new and fashionable foreign and domestic cloths for spring and summer garments; also, a large assortment of ready made clothing and furnishing goods. Gentlemen in want of good clothing, made up in good style, will do well to give them a call.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S REPORT.—We are indebted to Adjutant General Hodson for a copy of his report for the year ending Dec. 31, 1863. It contains 1100 carefully prepared pages, giving the organization of and changes in the Maine regiments and artillery at the commencement of the present year. It must have cost an immense amount of labor.

U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.—I have received from citizens of Ellsworth \$67; New Gloucester \$2; Miss Greenwood \$37; Bucksport \$20; Mr. Vernon \$11.50; Mechanic Falls \$21; China \$50; Elias Blodgett, South Carthage \$1; for use of U. S. Sanitary Commission, and not before acknowledged in daily papers. W. H. HADLEY, Agent.

The Ladies' Sanitary Committee being desirous of forwarding hospital supplies with the least possible delay, earnestly solicit contributions of every kind that will conduce to the comfort of our sick soldiers. Old sheets and cloth for compresses and bandages, are particularly desired, as their supply is entirely exhausted.

BARNUM'S EATING HOUSE.—Capt. Barnum has made extensive additions to the cooking apartments and apparatus of his saloon in Union street, so that he is now able to get up at the shortest notice, dinners and refreshments for very large parties. He is constantly supplied with all the luxuries the New York and Boston markets will afford.

IMPROVEMENT.—The brick building on the corner of Congress and Centre streets, is about to be remodelled. Mr. Fessenden, who has occupied the stand for many years, as a periodical depot, has removed to the saloon under Lancaster Hall, entrance on Centre street.

NEW BOOKS.—Messrs. Bailey & Noyes have received the "Ferry Boy and the Financier," or a Biography of Hon. Salmon P. Chase, written for the young. Walker, Wise & Co., publishers. This work will have an extensive sale. Full notice hereafter.

Harper's Magazine for June, the commencement of a new volume, is out this early. It is a rich number. Hall L. Davis, No. 55, and E. C. Andrews, No. 67 Exchange St., have received it.

A special meeting of the Ladies' Sanitary Committee will be held at their rooms to-day, May 9th, at 11 A. M. A full attendance is requested.

The American Illustrated—papers for this week have been received at the book and periodical store of A. Robinson, No. 51 Exchange street.

The contract for doing the joiner work of Mr. J. E. Fernald's house, on Spring street, has been taken by Mr. Spencer Rogers, instead of Spencer Plummer, as we stated on Saturday.

N. Fessenden, under Lancaster Hall, has received the June number of Harper's Magazine.

The total value of foreign exports from this port last week amounted to \$110,679 04.

# BY TELEGRAPH TO THE

Portland Daily Press.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

SUCCESS OF GEN. GRANT.

Gen. Lee Driven Back towards Richmond.

WASHINGTON, May 7.

Up to 5 o'clock this afternoon the Government had received no information of more decisive results than was furnished by the Tribune dispatch, published this morning. Therefore, the reports of a great victory achieved by Gen. Grant on Wednesday and Thursday, and the pursuing of the enemy all day Friday, etc., are, to say the least, not reliable.

As the down train from Brandy Station was on the way down this morning, when about three miles from Brandy Station, it was fired into by guerrillas concealed in the woods. A volley was returned by the guard on the train. The city has been intensely excited all day with the news from the army of the Potomac, the early publications serving to excite the public curiosity concerning the military movements. The bulletins of the newspapers attracted thousands of readers. Inquiries are responded to by the Government has received no such information, or any information of more decisive results than that furnished by the Tribune's dispatch elsewhere. The fact that Gen. Meade was able to stand the brunt of the Confederate attack, with the position of his command is considered a hopeful indication, and we hope soon to be able to announce a decisive victory, but we shall not trifle with our readers by manufacturing victories for another season.

The above contradiction of the Star is believed to be based on reliable information. During the day many inquiries were made of officers of the Government, but without the satisfaction naturally desirable on the part of those who have impatient desires for early and complete success, and who forget that the work must be necessarily stubborn, heavy and persistent on both sides, owing to the great importance of the result. The fragmentary information received from time to time shows nothing decisive, but serves to contradict many rumors of the previous speculations concerning the whereabouts and design of the rebels which were so confidently asserted.

The statements which were received here to-day, and which are entitled to belief, are that Gen. Lee made a tremendous effort to attack to pierce our centre, hoping thereby to divide our forces and to secure a victory, but Gen. Hancock's corps came to the relief and a murderous fire formed in line of battle and thwarted the designs of the rebels. The loss was heavy on both sides. Gen. Sheridan was profitably engaged in another part of the field, and sent the Chief in command a message that he had routed Stuart's cavalry. The attack of Lee was on an advanced column, who, doubtless, anticipated a victory by his onslaught before the main body could advance to the field of battle.

The reports of Thursday were that the hostilities would be renewed on Friday. Midnight.—The greatest excitement prevails in this city to-night to learn further particulars of the great battle between Grant and Lee. All sorts of rumors are being spread, and official information has been received by the Government of the great battle up to the present time. It is said that our loss in killed and wounded on Thursday was about 4000, including many officers of distinction.

WASHINGTON, S. I. A. M.  
It is said to-night that Gen. Hays was killed in the fight on Thursday, and that several other generals were wounded.

NEW YORK, May 8.  
By telegraph from Washington to General John A. Dix, New York, May 8.

Washington, May 8, 9 A. M.—We have no official reports from the front, but the medical direction has notified our Surgeon General that there were several deaths at Brandy Station, and will number from 6,000 to 8,000. The chief quartermaster of the army of the Potomac has made requisitions for several days' grain and for railroad construction trains, and states that the situation is reported as retreating. This indicates Gen. Grant's advance, and affords an inference of material success on our part. The enemy's strength was always based on the fact that he had a first blood, and his having failed and our forces having maintained their ground but preparing to advance, led to the hope of full and complete success; for when either party falls, disorganization follows, and the victor commences. The enemy's loss in killed and wounded must weaken him more than we are weakened. Nothing further than my last night's dispatch has been received from Gen. Grant.

A dispatch has been received from General Sherman, dated 5 o'clock P. M. yesterday, stating that Gen. Thomas had occupied Tunnel Hill, where he expected a battle, and that the rebels were taken position at Buzzard's Roost. Pass, north of Dalton, but no real fighting yet.

It is designed to give accurate official statements of that is known to the Department in this great crisis, and to withhold nothing from the public.

(Signed) E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, May 8.  
The Star in its extra this morning says: Gen. Ingalls says, "We have fought a battle. The enemy are said to be retreating." There seems to be no doubt that although nothing decisive has yet occurred, the enemy has been forced in his conduct of expectations of a victory. Gen. Grant before his operations could be fully developed, and that Lee has been completely given way.

The casualties reported are Gen. Hays killed, and Gen. Getty, Getty and Gen. Getty and Gen. Hays and Gen. Owens are reported wounded. Gen. Hancock is reported to have received a slight wound while rallying his men to resist P. H. Smith's attack. Two of Gen. Burnside's staff are reported to have been killed while carrying dispatches.

The Star also says: "We were at liberty to mention a fact within our knowledge, we did not could do so, because that Lee had real occasion to dread the strategy of our military operations, as well as the vigor with which they are pressed. We believe that Jeff Davis has been told in reality what has sometimes been talked about, that it 'thunders all around'."

The line of attack by Lee in the fighting of Thursday and Friday, nearly at right angles with Gen. Grant's line, and from the direction of Orange County, indicates that Lee made the latter point his base and headquarters.

The forced march of a day and night by Burnside from Manassas, by which he got his troops to Grant's support on Thursday night, is said to have even surpassed his brilliant forced marches in East Tennessee, by which he surprised the enemy there. Probably Lee has by this time had occasion to feel their presence with Grant.

Gen. Webb was killed in the battle of Friday.

NEW YORK, May 8.  
The Tribune's letter from the army, dated Thursday night, says: "Early this morning the march was resumed in the direction of Todd's Tavern, which point was reached before noon and troops pulled in line of battle at 12 o'clock. M. Gen. Wilson, commanding M. Kilpatrick's former cavalry division, made his whereabouts known by a brisk cannonading several miles east of the tavern and in the vicinity of Shady Grove Church, where, for three quarters of an hour, he was engaged with a large body of rebel cavalry and

a considerable force of infantry, by whom he was gradually forced back upon the 23d corps. Had not the maneuver of the enemy prevented, night would have found Gen. Hancock's command at Shady Grove Church, connecting with Warren on his right. By this maneuver we would have occupied the Pike running in a northwesterly direction from Germania Ford, on the Rapidan. The movement of Lee soon revealed his real designs. Gen. Warren was ordered to attack him at once, while the A. Cavalry division was determined musketry fight of an hour ensued, in which Warren handsomely drove him from his position, with the infliction of severe loss. Griffin's division of the 5th corps led the attack and suffered severely, losing nearly 3000 in killed, wounded and missing. Finding his efforts to break our centre futile, the enemy next attempted to interpose an overwhelming force between Warren and Hancock, the latter of whom, in accordance with orders, was marching his corps rapidly to form a junction with the former. Fortunately his advance, consisting of Birney's division, came up just in time to check the rebel general, who, at 2 1/2 P. M., commenced a terrible attack on the divisions of Birney, Gibbons and Getty, the latter of whom had been temporarily detached to form the extreme right of Hancock's line, which right flank of the Rebels was some time after dark and resulted in the complete repulse of the enemy at all points.

Our loss in this engagement does not probably exceed 1000 men. Scarcely any artillery was brought into the action, the battle field is covered with a thick growth of underbrush and medium sized oak trees, and it is owing to the fact that our losses are comparatively light.

Our captives in prisoners is about 5000. When Hancock's corps retired toward Parker's store, 300 of the 18th Penn. cavalry, under Maj. Brenton, sent to relieve the pickets several miles below, on the Spotsylvania road, were attacked by a large body of rebel troops and driven back to Todd's Tavern in confusion, and quite a large number were taken prisoners by the rebels.

WASHINGTON, May 8, 5 P. M.  
To-Maj. Gen. John A. Dix, New York:

It is believed that no fighting took place yesterday. A part of the wounded arrived at Brandy Station yesterday morning, and the Rebels were on the way toward Hancock Station, and are on the way by railroad. The Department will probably receive dispatches by a train which will arrive to-night.

The dispatch from Gen. Butler, just received, and which left him yesterday, states that a demonstration had been made by his force on the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond, and had succeeded in destroying it so that the Rebels could not use it. He had been some severe fighting, but that he had been successful. He heard from rebel deserters that Hunter was dangerously wounded.

Pickett, Johnston and Lee, killed. Nothing has been heard from Gen. Sherman. (Signed) EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

WASHINGTON, May 8, 5 P. M.  
The National Republican has the following: "We are glad to state that the fighting on Thursday and Friday is all that the most sanguine friends of the government can desire. The dawn of day on Saturday exhibited no evidence of the presence of the enemy. Gen. Grant with great precaution took advantage of the fact, and ordered a forward movement. It is proper to say here that in consequence of such movements, nothing was heard of the Rebels until Friday. He has more important duties to perform."

It is believed by those who have the best means of knowing, that Lee is hastening to the works of Richmond, not only to save the remnant of his army, but to secure to himself, in addition to these war-worn heroes from the coast of North Carolina and the posts in Virginia, nearly all the brave and gallant followers of the 10th corps, under Maj. Gen. Gilmore, who are now being ordered to participate in the movement forming at their encampment at Gloucester Point, opposite Yorktown. That Yorktown and Gloucester make good the month of the Rebels, should have been selected for the rendezvous of the troops naturally led to the supposition that the advance was intended to be made up the Peninsula. That the assurance of deception by Lee's army of the Rebels, and the troops was dispatched by Gen. Butler out as late as yesterday to White House Landing, where at sunrise, when we last heard from there, they were seriously engaged in falling timber and cutting a way, as if prepared to facilitate the landing of a large army. To aid in this scheme of mystification, all the light draught steamers were kept until the last moment at Fort Monroe, whence early yesterday morning they were dispatched to York river. The work of embarking the troops, whose arrangements for the purpose had already been made, was begun promptly, and the Rebels, who were not prepared to over the campaign ground the last tent was struck, and the troops were all on board. Gen. Butler's orders to his subordinate Generals made it incumbent for them to repair to Hampton Roads as quickly as possible, and Gen. Grant, and a naval force consisting of five monitors and eleven gunboats under Rear Admiral Lee. The cavalry branch of the expedition is commanded by Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, and consists of a brigade of Union Cavalry, and a brigade of Confederate Cavalry, and white troops, led by Stuart, Va., at daylight yesterday morning. The point at which he aims primarily to strike is Hickford, on the Petersburg Richmond & Weldon Railroad. The railroad bridge over the river is a strong one about 300 feet long, will be destroyed if possible, and then the dashing horsemen will do other damage to the enemy's means of supply as they can find opportunity. Gen. Kautz has received a roving commission, and if not too badly pressed by the rebels he may penetrate as far south as Weldon, N. C., returning when it suits his convenience to the north, and then, as he is expected that he will make a good record. Starting up the Peninsula from Williamsburg, another cavalry force, somewhat smaller, commanded by Col. West, will strike at daybreak. His object was to create a diversion in our favor by keeping the rebels excited, and attack the guerrillas and garrisons of the outposts. Col. West would try to cross the Chickahominy at Bottoms Bridge, and to his right the main body of the James river, the main advance taking the advance of Gen. Butler's boat, which reached Wilson's Wharf, a point about thirty-five miles below Richmond. Here a regiment of Gen. Wilder's cavalry brigade have effected a landing and are busily making preparations to hold the place. From this point up the river to Fort Powhatan is a clear straight road, and in command of it would never do to leave in the hands of the enemy, who could fortify the bluff and play the mischief with our water communications, so Gen. Butler takes possession of both these points, and the Rebels are driven from our without a struggle, the Union forces are securely planted in a splendidly advantageous position within fifteen miles of the rebel capital, and our troops are landing as rapidly as possible. Our line will stretch across the river strip of land, the left resting on the James river, and then pressing over the little river Appomattox; the prolongation of the line will reach the James river again, holding the rebels under an insular position called the Bermuda Hundreds. Intrenched here with both flanks of the army protected by gunboats, we can bid defiance to Lee's cohorts. If Grant's sharp position is considered admirable, Lee's army is now between two fires, and should our cavalry raid seriously impair his communication South, starvation will be added to his other troubles.

The Herald's extra has a Fortress Monroe dispatch, dated 6th S. P. M., stating that our troops were in possession of Petersburg, Va.

Steamer Western Metropolis, from Fortress Monroe 7th inst., reports that on the 5th the 1st and 2d regiments of colored cavalry under Col. West, made a dash across the Chickahominy, and were engaged in the Bermuda Hundreds, killing thirty men and capturing thirty horses. The horses were immediately mounted by our troops, who pursued the rebels within ten miles of the Bermuda Hundreds. Intrenched here with both flanks of the army protected by gunboats, we can bid defiance to Lee's cohorts. If Grant's sharp position is considered admirable, Lee's army is now between two fires, and should our cavalry raid seriously impair his communication South, starvation will be added to his other troubles.

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# Important and Successful Movements by Gen. Butler.

The Rebels Deceived by his Movements.

NEW YORK, May 8.

The Herald's special Washington dispatch contains Gen. Butler's official telegram to Lt. Gen. Grant. It is as follows:  
"Off City Point, Va. May 5th.—Lieut. Gen. Grant, commanding the armies of the United States, Washington 12 o'clock P. M.: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst. A brigade of Wilder's colored troops are there. At Fort Powhatan Landing, two regiments of the line brigade have landed. At City Point Hinks division, with the remaining troops and battery, have landed. The remainder of both the 18th and 10th corps are being landed at Bermuda Hundreds, above the Appomattox. No opposition encountered thus far. The movement was apparently a complete surprise. Both army corps left Yorktown during last night. The monitors are all over the bar at Harrison's Landing and above City Point. The operations of the fleet have been conducted with energy and success. Gen. Smith and Gilmore are pushing the landing of the men. Gen. Graham, with the army gunboats, led the advance during the night, capturing the signal station of the Rebels. The New York flag of truce boat was found lying at the wharf with 400 prisoners, whom she had not time to deliver. She went up yesterday morning. We are landing troops during the night—a hazardous service in the face of the enemy."  
(Signed) BENJ. F. BUTLER, Major General Commanding.

A. F. Puffer, Captain and A. D. C., of the "Times" letter from James River, dated May 5th, says:

To Major Gen. Butler, I am told, is exclusive of whatever credit result from the inception and execution of the plan. When, four weeks since, Lieut. Gen. Grant, the actual commander of the armies of the United States, visited Fortress Monroe, it was for the purpose of taking the view of the river. Gen. Butler respecting an advance upon the rebels by way of the Peninsula, to be carried out in co-operation with the grand army of the Potomac. Gen. Grant had considered the various plans proposed with respect to the view, but had committed himself to none, and was inclined, therefore, to listen attentively to what Gen. Butler might suggest. The sequel of the story of the advance of the grand army of the Potomac, which was assigned to Gen. F. Smith. In addition to these war-worn heroes from the coast of North Carolina and the posts in Virginia, nearly all the brave and gallant followers of the 10th corps, under Maj. Gen. Gilmore, who are now being ordered to participate in the movement forming at their encampment at Gloucester Point, opposite Yorktown. That Yorktown and Gloucester make good the month of the Rebels, should have been selected for the rendezvous of the troops naturally led to the supposition that the advance was intended to be made up the Peninsula. That the assurance of deception by Lee's army of the Rebels, and the troops was dispatched by Gen. Butler out as late as yesterday to White House Landing, where at sunrise, when we last heard from there, they were seriously engaged in falling timber and cutting a way, as if prepared to facilitate the landing of a large army. To aid in this scheme of mystification, all the light draught steamers were kept until the last moment at Fort Monroe, whence early yesterday morning they were dispatched to York river. The work of embarking the troops, whose arrangements for the purpose had already been made, was begun promptly, and the Rebels, who were not prepared to over the campaign ground the last tent was struck, and the troops were all on board. Gen. Butler's orders to his subordinate Generals made it incumbent for them to repair to Hampton Roads as quickly as possible, and Gen. Grant, and a naval force consisting of five monitors and eleven gunboats under Rear Admiral Lee. The cavalry branch of the expedition is commanded by Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, and consists of a brigade of Union Cavalry, and a brigade of Confederate Cavalry, and white troops, led by Stuart, Va., at daylight yesterday morning. The point at which he aims primarily to strike is Hickford, on the Petersburg Richmond & Weldon Railroad. The railroad bridge over the river is a strong one about 300 feet long, will be destroyed if possible, and then the dashing horsemen will do other damage to the enemy's means of supply as they can find opportunity. Gen. Kautz has received a roving commission, and if not too badly pressed by the rebels he may penetrate as far south as Weldon, N. C., returning when it suits his convenience to the north, and then, as he is expected that he will make a good record. Starting up the Peninsula from Williamsburg, another cavalry force, somewhat smaller, commanded by Col. West, will strike at daybreak. His object was to create a diversion in our favor by keeping the rebels excited, and attack the guerrillas and garrisons of the outposts. Col. West would try to cross the Chickahominy at Bottoms Bridge, and to his right the main body of the James river, the main advance taking the advance of Gen. Butler's boat, which reached Wilson's Wharf, a point about thirty-five miles below Richmond. Here a regiment of Gen. Wilder's cavalry brigade have effected a landing and are busily making preparations to hold the place. From this point up the river to Fort Powhatan is a clear straight road, and in command of it would never do to leave in the hands of the enemy, who could fortify the bluff and play the mischief with our water communications, so Gen. Butler takes possession of both these points, and the Rebels are driven from our without a struggle, the Union forces are securely planted in a splendidly advantageous position within fifteen miles of the rebel capital, and our troops are landing as rapidly as possible. Our line will stretch across the river strip of land, the left resting on the James river, and then pressing over the little river Appomattox; the prolongation of the line will reach the James river again, holding the rebels under an insular position called the Bermuda Hundreds. Intrenched here with both flanks of the army protected by gunboats, we can bid defiance to Lee's cohorts. If Grant's sharp position is considered admirable, Lee's army is now between two fires, and should our cavalry raid seriously impair his communication South, starvation will be added to his other troubles.

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To Major Gen. Butler, I am told, is exclusive of whatever credit result from the inception and execution of the plan. When, four weeks since, Lieut. Gen. Grant, the actual commander of the armies of the United States, visited Fortress Monroe, it was for the purpose of taking the view of the river. Gen. Butler respecting an advance upon the rebels by way of the Peninsula, to be carried out in co-operation with the grand army of the Potomac. Gen. Grant had considered the various plans proposed with respect to the view, but had committed himself to none, and was inclined, therefore, to listen attentively to what Gen. Butler might suggest. The sequel of the story of the advance of the grand army of the Potomac, which was assigned to Gen. F. Smith. In addition to these war-worn heroes from the coast of North Carolina and the posts in Virginia, nearly all the brave and gallant followers of the 10th corps, under Maj. Gen. Gilmore, who are now being ordered to participate in the movement forming at their encampment at Gloucester Point, opposite Yorktown. That Yorktown and Gloucester make good the month of the Rebels, should have been selected for the rendezvous of the troops naturally led to the supposition that the advance was intended to be made up the Peninsula. That the assurance of deception by Lee's army of the Rebels, and the troops was dispatched by Gen. Butler out as late as yesterday to White House Landing, where at sunrise, when we last heard from there, they were seriously engaged in falling timber and cutting a way, as if prepared to facilitate the landing of a large army. To aid in this scheme of mystification, all the light draught steamers were kept until the last moment at Fort Monroe, whence early yesterday morning they were dispatched to York river. The work of embarking the troops, whose arrangements for the purpose had already been made, was begun promptly, and the Rebels, who were not prepared to over the campaign ground the last tent was struck, and the troops were all on board. Gen. Butler's orders to his subordinate Generals made it incumbent for them to repair to Hampton Roads as quickly as possible, and Gen. Grant, and a naval force consisting of five monitors and eleven gunboats under Rear Admiral Lee. The cavalry branch of the expedition is commanded by Brig. Gen. A. V. Kautz, and consists of a brigade of Union Cavalry, and a brigade of Confederate Cavalry, and white troops, led by Stuart, Va., at daylight yesterday morning. The point at which he aims primarily to strike is Hickford, on the Petersburg Richmond & Weldon Railroad. The railroad bridge over the river is a strong one about 300 feet long, will be destroyed if possible, and then the dashing horsemen will do other damage to the enemy's means of supply as they can find opportunity. Gen. Kautz has received a roving commission, and if not too badly pressed by the rebels he may penetrate as far south as Weldon, N. C., returning when it suits his convenience to the north, and then, as he is expected that he will make a good record. Starting up the Peninsula from Williamsburg, another cavalry force, somewhat smaller, commanded by Col. West, will strike at daybreak. His object was to create a diversion in our favor by keeping the rebels excited, and attack the guerrillas and garrisons of the outposts. Col. West would try to cross the Chickahominy at Bottoms Bridge, and to his right the main body of the James river, the main advance taking the advance of Gen. Butler's boat, which reached Wilson's Wharf, a point about thirty-five miles below Richmond. Here a regiment of Gen. Wilder's cavalry brigade have effected a landing and are busily making preparations to hold the place. From this point up the river to Fort Powhatan is a clear straight road, and in command of it would never do to leave in the hands of the enemy, who could fortify the bluff and play the mischief with our water communications, so Gen. Butler takes possession of both these points, and the Rebels are driven from our without a struggle, the Union forces are securely planted in a splendidly advantageous position within fifteen miles of the rebel capital, and our troops are landing as rapidly as possible. Our line will stretch across the river strip of land, the left resting on the James river, and then pressing over the little river Appomattox; the prolongation of the line will reach the James river again, holding the rebels under an insular position called the Bermuda Hundreds. Intrenched here with both flanks of the army protected by gunboats, we can bid defiance to Lee's cohorts. If Grant's sharp position is considered admirable, Lee's army is now between two fires, and should our cavalry raid seriously impair his communication South, starvation will be added to his other troubles.

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